From:	Lawrence Aaronson
To:	City Council
Subject:	Hewlet Packward/ Israel and Gaza attacks
Date:	Monday, April 23, 2018 3:32:50 PM

Dear Council:

My name is Larry Aaronson. I currently reside at 432 Norfolk St, Somerville, MA. From 1970-2006 I was a renter then property owner in Cambridge. I taught and retired from CRLS after 30-plus years of service. I taught several of you in my history classes at CRLS. Many of my curriculum units and daily lesson plans concerned issues of social justice, economic equity, racial equity and justice, educational equity and justice. I am writing to you about my request to have the Cambridge City Council to divest from any holdings in Hewlett Packard.

I am writing to you in several capacities. First as an American of the Jewish faith who has been increasingly concerned about Israel Occupation of Palestine, and about Israeli boycott and embargo on the Palestinian people. I used to argue that the road to peace in Jerusalem/Palestine ran through the cities of Damascus and Baghdad. Make Peace in Syria and stabilize Iraq and we can together negotiate a settlement in Palestine. I now believe that the road to peace in Palestine runs through the hearts, minds and souls of American Jewry. American Jews must speak out, stand up and protest against Israel's brutal repression of Palestinians aspirations for peace, independent sovereignty, justice and a lasting peace.

I have been recently apprised of the role that Hewlett Packard has played in Israel's on-going assaults against the Palestinian people of Gaza, never mind of the Israeli Occupation of The West Bank, and beyond. I have also been made aware that the City of Cambridge has some of its rich portfolio invested in this corporation. I regard this complicity as unconscionable, given all the brutal assaults on Gaza's citizens, economy and culture. Israel's counter-revolutionary policies against Gaza approach the definition of genocide. For a Jewish nation, which Israel proudly boast, who suffered and survived the holocaust, I find this unconscionable.

As a former teacher at CRLS, I am aware of the growing numbers of Moslem Americans enrolled in CPSD and at CRLS. On-going assaults on Gaza and the West Bank are more and more being felt by our Islamic community as a direct assault upon their culture, their faith and their livelihood.

Cambridge has a long history of standing up to such egregious policies and practices. I do not need to cite these examples. I regard the issue of divestiture as most compelling.

Respectively
Lawrence S. Aaronson